

35. The plastic article of claim 34, wherein the first additive is a graphitized pitch-based carbon fiber having a tensile strength of greater than about 200 KSI, a tensile modulus greater than about 100 MSI, a density ranging from about 2.15 to about 2.25 gm/cm<sup>3</sup>, a Tc ranging from about 400 to about 1100 W/mEK, and a diameter ranging from about 7 microns to about 10 microns, the second additive is boron nitride platelets, and the polymeric matrix material is selected from the group consisting of polyamideimide, polyetherimide, polyimide, polyetheretherketone, polyphenylene sulfide, liquid crystal polymer, and combinations thereof.

A2 36. The plastic article of claim 34, wherein the first additive is a graphitized pitch-based carbon fiber having a tensile strength of greater than about 200 KSI, a tensile modulus greater than about 100 MSI, a density ranging from about 2.15 to about 2.25 gm/cm<sup>3</sup>, a Tc ranging from about 400 to about 1100 W/mEK, and a diameter ranging from about 7 microns to about 10 microns, the second additive is tetrafluoroethylene, and the polymeric matrix material is selected from the group consisting of polyamideimide, polyetherimide, polyimide, polyetheretherketone, polyphenylene sulfide, liquid crystal polymer, and combinations thereof.

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39. The plastic article of claim 38, wherein the first additive is selected from the group consisting of graphitized pitch-based carbon fibers having a tensile strength of greater than about 200 KSI, a tensile modulus greater than about 100 MSI, a density ranging from about 2.15 to about 2.25 gm/cm<sup>3</sup>, a Tc ranging from about 400 to about 1100 W/mEK, and a diameter ranging from about 7 microns to about 10 microns and combinations thereof.

A3 40. A plastic article having a bearing surface, comprising:  
a polymeric matrix material selected from the group consisting of polyamideimide, polyetherimide, polyimide, polyetheretherketone, polyphenylene sulfide, liquid crystal polymer, and combinations thereof; and

about 5 percent to about 75 percent by weight of a first additive selected from the group consisting of graphitized pitch-based carbon fibers having a tensile strength of greater than about 200 KSI, a tensile modulus greater than about 100

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cont. MSI, a density ranging from about 2.15 to about 2.25 gm/cm<sup>3</sup>, a Tc ranging from about 400 to about 1100 W/mEK, and a diameter ranging from about 7 microns to about 10 microns and combinations thereof;

wherein the plastic article has a wear factor of less than about 200 under a load of about 200 psi and a velocity of about 50 feet per minute.

A4 43. The plastic article of claim 42, wherein the first additive is selected from the group consisting of graphitized pitch-based carbon fibers having a tensile strength of greater than about 200 KSI, a tensile modulus greater than about 100 MSI, a density ranging from about 2.15 to about 2.25 gm/cm<sup>3</sup>, a Tc ranging from about 400 to about 1100 W/mEK, and a diameter ranging from about 7 microns to about 10 microns and combinations thereof.

#### **REMARKS**

Applicants hereby elect polyetheretherketone as a single species of polymeric matrix material and further elect Thermalgraph DKD fibers as a single species of a lubricious reinforcing fiber. The election is made with traverse and solely to comply with the Office Action and should not be construed as a surrender of any subject matter in the application. The right to file divisional applications on the non-elected claims is reserved.

This election is further made with the understanding that upon allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim.

Regarding the election of species requirement, Applicants respectfully submit that polyamideimide, polyetherimide, polyimide, polyetheretherketone, polyphenylene sulfide, liquid crystal polymer are all polymeric matrix materials and, thus, Applicants submit that all of these materials should be considered as forming a single group. Further, Applicants also traverse the election of species requirement in general on the basis that, while the claims are allegedly drawn to different species, Applicants